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quite wearied, as if from a protracted flight, and even the noise of a gun caused but a few of the nearest to fly.

I shot two of the Hawks as they slowly flew over me, both of which belonged to the same species, *Buteo swainsoni*. And, with but one exception (an American Rough-leg), all that I observed were of this species.

I estimated the number of Hawks on this one bottom at between three and four hundred, and was informed by farmers farther up the river that large numbers of the birds were on the bottoms there at the same time. The greater number resumed their journey southward in a loose body an hour or so after sunrise, but a few remained throughout the day. The next morning none were seen.

It would be extremely interesting to know the cause of this unusual flight of Hawks. I have known for some time that *Buteo swainsoni* migrates to the south in the fall, but have never before seen them in flocks, or going southward so early in the season. There had been no cold weather here at the time of the flight; rather the opposite. Possibly in the Dakotas (their breeding grounds) there may have been some atmospheric disturbance which would account for the early exodus. There was also a very large flight of Bartramian Sandpipers on the same morning, but no other birds were present in unusual numbers. — MERRITT CARY, *Neligh, Nebraska.*

A Musical Woodpecker. — My attention was first called to this talented bird by the rapid vibrations of one of the four wires running into our office. Looking down the track from where the noise seemed to proceed I spied a Red-headed Woodpecker (*Melanerpes erythrocephalus*) on top of a pole not far away. Leaving the office I went down to the stock pens to watch proceedings. I did not have long to wait, for he began in a short time drumming vigorously against a protruding piece of wire. The piece of wire in question was about ten or twelve inches long with a loop in the center; it stood straight up parallel with the pole and about six inches above it, and protruded from a joint or splice in the wire, left there by some careless lineman.

The Woodpecker would drum against it for ten to fifteen seconds at a time, stopping now and then to listen to the humming of the wire, or fly out to catch a passing insect. He would stop and listen in evident enjoyment, then utter a call and proceed. He kept this up for over a month, when he disappeared and I have not seen him since. — OTTO HOLSTEIN, *Muir, Ky.*

Note on the Name Drymophila. — Mr. H. C. Oberholser has recently (Proc. Acad. Nat. Sci. Phil., June, 1899, 213) made use of Temminck's name *Drymophila* to replace *Philentoma* Eyton, for a genus of Old World Flycatchers, on the supposition that Swainson's *Drymophila* was preoccupied by Temminck's use of the term. Swainson first published it in Oct., 1824 (Zool. Journ., I, 302), without diagnosis or indication of a